

KLINGENDER, CHARLEY  
& DICKSON.

Bank Place.

Melbourne 4 Dec 1878

Dear Andrew,

This is the first opportunity  
I have had of writing a few lines <sup>in reply</sup> to  
your last affectionate letter. I see,  
although you pass by my arguments,  
that you still seem to retain the  
idea you had when you first  
addressed me on the subject of your  
probable advancement in life and its  
results, so far as your present  
practice is concerned. Believe me  
however, that I am fully sensible  
I deeply grateful for the kindly  
motives that actuated you in making  
your proposal & whatever the result  
may be I shall ever feel proud  
of the confidence you repose in me  
& I sincerely hope I shall never do

Anything to make your regret  
off the opinion you entertain of  
me. I will not now do  
anything more than refer you to  
my last letter especially to that  
portion which suggested that the  
subject should if possible be  
left open for discussion until we  
meet once more face to face. I  
can then more fully explain to you  
the state of my affairs & narrate  
the somewhat difficult circumstances  
of my present position -

I observe by the papers that  
the dissolution has not yet taken  
place & that it is doubtful  
whether the opposition can form a  
party of any durable strength  
or even oust the present Ministry,  
but of course the details are  
better known to you & I am certain  
your decision will be dictated  
by foresight & prudence -

I am <sup>in the</sup> receipt of a kind  
letter from Milton, enclosing his photo &

a friendly offering from the Muse,  
for all which please tender him  
my warmest thanks. Life myself  
has <sup>but little</sup> changed in personal appearance  
The exact period of my  
visit is somewhat uncertain.  
I have got my Banco business  
nearly all over, but have to go  
up to Kyurta this week to look  
after an action of Ejectment; next  
week to Kelmore, to conduct (not  
of course in person) an action for  
libel & there then also only  
remain some County Court actions in  
Melbourne & some back work  
to pull up. I can make a  
start - You may expect me before  
the 1<sup>st</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Jan'y next, but will  
hear from me again before then -  
My health continues uncertain  
but I endeavour to keep it up to  
the mark by means of exercise,  
I have lately joined a Rowing Club  
& go out on the River whenever  
I can get away from the "shop".  
Indeed I am picked to row in a  
race on 25 Jan'y but of course that

must fall through  
the year, I hail ~~the~~ with great pleasure  
that your family has increased by  
the little one. I sincerely trust  
that she may ever be your  
Delight & Comfort. Please present  
my kind regards to Mrs. Clark  
& say I hope soon to have the  
pleasure of paying in person  
my congratulations.

I have no news of any  
importance - Lodgings continue very  
comfortable & our circle is now  
complete by the addition of  
Collins who has returned from a  
lengthened sojourn in Gipsy Land.  
Edwards, who has greatly improved,  
deserves to be kindly remembered.

The day has been very hot &  
the night is approaching to close.  
I shall put this ~~to~~ <sup>to</sup> left to  
Watson & then lie to bed <sup>feeling</sup>  
quite exhausted. Good bye, bid  
of friends. Believing me as of yore  
Yours affectionately  
A. J. Clark Esq. M. D. Gill

Mr. W. J. Gill.

Solicitor.

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